



TRANSCRIPT REPORT

Date: November 8, 2005

Agenda item No: Minutes

Council Action Date: November 8, 2005

To: CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD
From: SANDRA MUÑOZ, EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Subject: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve the minutes of the special meeting of September 29, 2005.
Approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 30, 2005

George G. Sinopoli
Chairman



CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING #680

SEPTEMBER 29, 2005

Chairman George G. Sinopoli



Leo Burke, Vice Chairman

Vernon Chong, Board Member

James C. Crump, Jr., Board Member William D. Jackson, Board Member

The California Veterans Board met in a special meeting at Veterans Museum & Memorial Center, 2115 Park Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92101 at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Board Members George G. Sinopoli Chairman, Leo P. Burke Vice-Chairman, Vernon Chong Member, James C. Crump, Jr. Member, William D. Jackson Member

Absent: None

Chairman Sinopoli presided

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIEANCE

WELCOMING REMARKS

John Smith, Invocation

John Borders, Pledge of Allegiance

Dan Murray

Introductions of California Veterans Board Members

CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD CONSENT ITEMS

1. MINUTES

Executive Officer: Sandra Munoz

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 8, 2005

Board member Burke moved to approve August 8, 2005 Minutes. Board Member Jackson seconded. The vote was as follows:

AYES: Board Member Burke, Chong, Crump, Jackson, and Sinopoli

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Chairman declared the motion carried.

2. Discussions And Adoption of Policy C-6.1

Board Member Chong discussed Policy C-6.1.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve and adopt California Veterans Board Policy C-6.1

Board member Burke moved to approve and adopt California Veterans Board Policy C-6.1. Board Member Jackson seconded. The vote was as follows:

AYES: Board Member Burke, Chong, Crump, Jackson, and Sinopoli
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
Chairman declared the motion carried.

3. Formal Appeal Hearing of Byron P. Holtzclaw (05-01) 10:00 a.m.

RECOMMENDATION

The Board met in closed session and voted to deny the appeal.

Formal Appeal Hearing of Westley Johnson (04-12) 1:00 P.M.

RECOMMENDATION

By unanimous vote, the Board defers its decision on this deal pending an evaluation by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs psychiatrist to be arranged by the Chula Vista Veterans Home to be completed and provided to the Board as soon as possible, but not later than 90 days from today's date. That is the Board's decision.

ADJOURNED at 4:40 p.m.



**CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD
MINUTES
MEETING #681
SEPTEMBER 30, 2005
Chairman George G. Sinopoli**



Leo Burke, Vice Chairman **Vernon Chong, Board Member**
James C. Crump, Jr., Board Member **William D. Jackson, Board Member**

The California Veterans Board met in a special meeting at Veterans Museum & Memorial Center, 2115 Park Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92101 at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Board Members Leo P. Burke Vice-Chairman, Vernon Chong, Member, James C. Crump, Jr. Member, William D. Jackson Member

Absent: None

Vice Chairman Burke presided

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOMING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTION

David Salopek, Invocation

John Smith, Pledge of Allegiance

Brent Young, Director for Assemblymember Shirley Partin

Vice Chairman Burke introduced Lori Saldana, Assemblymember District 76 and background on Assemblymember Saldana was provided. She discussed the Broadway Area project, the Proposition 63 Mental Health Benefits, and stated that the Guardsman's Bill was signed into law.

Self-introductions by the audience

CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD CONSENT ITEMS

1. DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

Secretary Johnson introduced staff and provided an update on Lancaster, Fresno and Redding.

The next sentinel event is the Public Works Board of February 10, 2006. The things needed are workshop drawings, Title 3 properties, and completion of the environmental impact report. Need a contact person for government relations and will follow-up by letters, quit claim deed.

Meetings were held with community leaders on September 19th and 20th. Official meetings required to complete the requirements of the environmental portion were held in West Los Angeles, Ventura, and Lancaster. There were no negative comments.

Regarding Veteran Homes in Fresno the title is now in escrow.

In terms of Redding the PWB acted on October 7 to approve the acceptance of the donation from the city. On September 22, Secretary met with Redding City and they are very supportive.

The water renovation project is more technically difficult than ground waters swelling up from the water pipe so there are challenges there.

Comments by the Governor's office on LEED Certificate, which deals with construction criteria to lower the environmental impact, was never designed for health care criteria. We may now have a different set of criteria called Green Guide Criteria, which is designed specifically for health care.

Discussion was held:

Board member Crump and Jackson.

2. OTHER UPDATES

Secretary Johnson discussed SB1449, homes quit claim, the threat of Federal and State budget, and the need to get \$140 million back into the home project budget. Without the \$140 million the VA Homes are at risk. He is following this very closely and working with the Governor's office.

Discussion was held:

The following Congressmen are in support of the \$140 million dollars to be placed into the Farm and Home budget: Congressmen Henser, Johnson, Landrum, and Lewis.

The first round of budget appropriations for next year has been completed. Over 40 requests were received, and it has been narrowed down to 24, which are over double submitted, and this will be a budget deficient year.

The Bond Counsel RFQ was pointed out to Board members for their review and comment.

Discussion was held:

Vice Chairperson Burke, Board Member Crump, and Howell Jackson.

Secretary Johnson announced that Veteran's Day will be coming soon and the first annual Charity Golf Tournament will be held.

Bill Parente reported on significant events in Barstow. Focus is on developing a home to transition homeless Veterans.

A plan has been submitted with the Department of Health Services for its approval to increase the capacity of intermediate care from 40 beds to 60 beds. Once the expansion is complete, the Department of Health Services will re-inspect in July '07 and if they are satisfied with the expanded intermediate care facilities they will support the 20 SNF beds sometime in the April '07 timeline.

Discussion was held: Board member Jackson

Chula Vista is actively seeking a new SNF Administrator and an Assistant Administrator; current census is 357; admitted a veteran from Mississippi; October is Fleet Month in San Diego; and October 22nd is a celebration at the home.

At Yountville Mr. Barton has been promoted and Mr. Parente participated in the interview process; current census is 1,095; construction projects are the storage, remodel of Annex I, Dementia system; a program for returning operation Iraqi and Afghan veterans is being developed and pursuing a 5 year donation plan; on October 2nd the home will participate in Yountville Day Parade.

Secretary Johnson reported that there will be a recognition celebration at HQ headquarters with one person working there for 40 years. The Governor has a great interest in needs for veterans and initiatives are being worked on.

Judge Howell Jackson reported on two formal hearing appeals heard yesterday, September 29, 2005. The first hearing was from an appeal of the Department of Farm and Home Purchases and the Board denied the appeal of the veteran. The second appeal was from a decision of the Chula Vista Veterans Home denying a veteran's application for admission. The Board deferred its decision asking the Chula Vista Veterans Home to arrange for an additional medical examination and report back to the Board.

Board Member Crump reported that he attended the Stand Down in Sacramento on September 16, 17 and 18. He was very impressed with the outpour of generosity to the Veterans. He encouraged everyone to inform veterans of the VA benefits.

Board Member Chong reported that he attended the dedication of the Veteran's Memorial Plaque in Sacramento.

Board Member Jackson reported that in speaking with veteran organizations he finds that there is a tremendous lack of information and he encourages the Board to work with organizations to provide information.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – Three Minute Limit

Board Policy Prohibits Response from Board Members

David Salopek

Tom Montague

Ric Revel

Curt Sigsberry

Steve Arends

Will Hays

5. ADJOURNED at 11:10 a.m.